

Border Eagle



Vol. 47, No. 19

Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas ... Training the world's best pilots

May 21, 1999

Newsline

A glance at news affecting Laughlin



Pilot graduation

The graduation ceremony for Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 99-09 is 10 a.m. today at the Operations Training Complex auditorium.

Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Gerald L. Prather, former commander of Air Force Communications Command, will be the guest speaker.

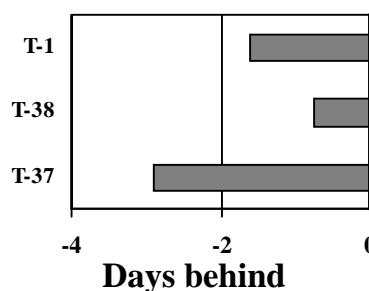
ID checks

100% identification checks are required at the Base Exchange and Service Station/Shoppette facilities at the time of purchase. Contractor and civilian employees are also required to show their IDs and may only purchase food/drink and snack type items. As always, alcoholic beverages and tobacco items may only be purchased by those holding a military ID.

47 FTW mission status

(As of May 19)

Student Timeline



Sorties flown in FY 99:
42,239

Hours flown in FY 99:
57,732.5

Pilot wings earned in FY 99:
170

Pilot wings earned since 1963:
11,212

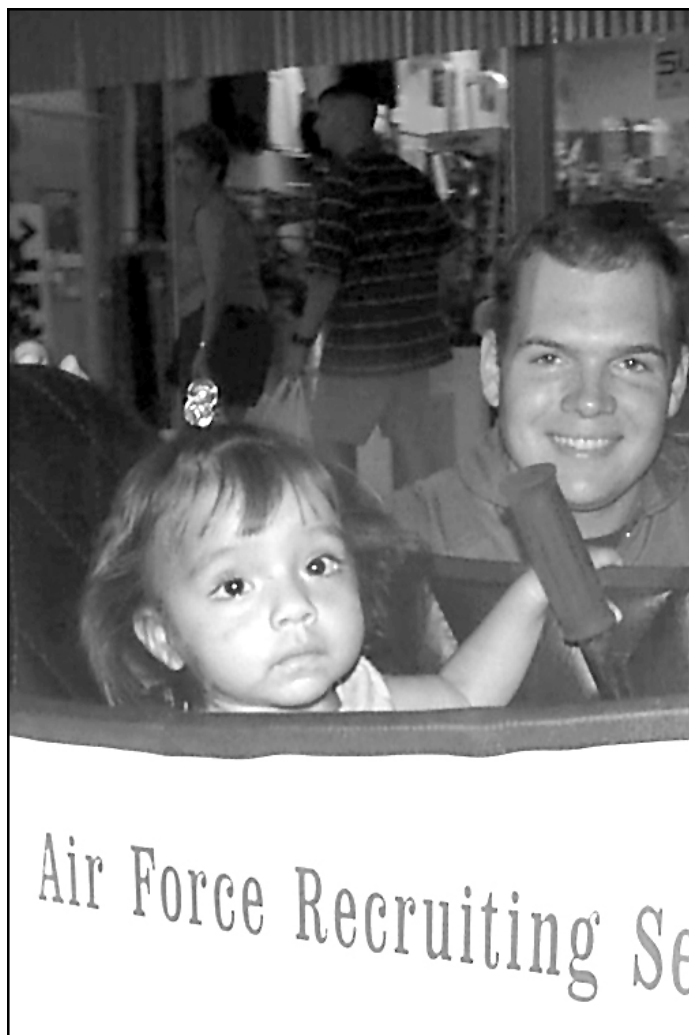


Photo by Zenaphir Bond

Aim high

A Del Rio youth aims high during Armed Forces Day Saturday at Plaza Del Sol Mall as 2nd Lt. Brandon Cruce, 85th Flying Training Squadron, does a bit of early recruiting. More than 10,000 people visited booths to learn more about military missions and equipment.

Five promoted to major

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – The Calendar Year 1999A Major Central Selection Board for Line, Judge Advocate General, Chaplain, the Medical Service, Biomedical Sciences and Nurse Corps selected 2,243 captains for promotion to major.

The board selected five Laughlin members. They are:

Terrence J. Christie, 47th Flying Training Wing
Quinten L. Miklos, 85th Flying Training Squadron
Alan R. Miller, 86th Flying Training Squadron
Richard B. Nichols, 85th Flying Training Squadron
Daniel H. Runkle, 87th Flying Training Squadron

Prather to be inducted in base Heritage Hall

By Jim Teet

Public Affairs

Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Gerald L. Prather will join seven other distinguished Laughlin undergraduate pilot training alumni when he is inducted into the Heritage Hallway here at 10 a.m. Thursday morning.

Heritage Hall is located in the main entrance hallway of the Operations Training Complex (Building 320). Its purpose is to honor those individuals who have been assigned here, and who have achieved notable service to the Air Force and the country.

Col. Dan R. Goodrich, 47th Flying Training Wing commander, stated in his invitation to Prather, "Because of your distinguished military career and the sacrifices you have made for your country, as well as your continued tireless devotion and dedication to the mission of Laughlin, we would like to include you among the individuals honored in our Heritage Hall."

Prather enlisted in the Air Force in 1954. He served at Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas, and earned his first stripe. He then went through the aviation cadet program, received his pilot wings and was commissioned a second lieutenant here in August 1956.

He went on to complete 32 years of service to the country, including more than 500 combat missions in Vietnam. He retired in August 1986 while serving as commander of Air Force Communications Command, directing 60,000 military people at 747 locations throughout the world.

While serving in Vietnam as a C-130 pilot, then major Prather was on duty as scheduling officer at Ton Son Nhut Air Base. About midnight, the base came under heavy Viet Cong attack at the start of the 1968 Tet Offensive.

A mortar shell set fire to a parked C-130, and Prather raced out to move an adjacent aircraft 200 yards away to safety while mortar bursts continued to target aircraft and base assets. Realizing the unit fire truck was disabled due to the attack, he mustered everyone available and directed the use of hand extinguishers to keep the fire from spreading until other help arrived about an hour later.

Three hours later, Prather, a captain and one technical sergeant had relocated to Cam Ran Bay and set up a scheduling operation to divert all C-130s from the area under attack. He continued to direct these operations for 42 hours without sleep and, as a result, was awarded the Bronze Star with V device for valor.

He also earned the Distinguished Flying Cross for his actions in guiding another C-130 to a safe landing at the besieged

See 'Prather,' page 8

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inside
scoop**

Heritage ...

Gen. Lloyd W. Newton, AETC commander, salutes the history and contributions of Asian Pacific Americans.

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Stress reduction ...

The 47th Medical Support Squadron commander offers tips on living a healthy and happy life.

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CCAF graduates ...

Seven local people receive degrees through the Community College of the Air Force and Park College.

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Commander's corner

Reducing stress: ways to live life to the fullest

By Maj. Bruce Allen

47th Medical Support Squadron commander

With all the conveniences of modern technology and the advent of the information age, one might expect people would have more time in their lives for "quality of life" concerns. These concerns range anywhere from time spent between parents and children, to time spent between husbands and wives, to time spent being alone – to name a few.

However, studies indicate that quite the opposite is occurring. People spend more time working now than they did 50 years ago – an increase on average from 37 to 48 hours per week. It's getting worse on the home front too. Spouses spend an average of four minutes a day actually conversing together. Parents spend an average of six minutes a day talking to their children. Like the proverbial hamster on the wheel, many people have become conditioned in our culture that working feverishly equates to success. Whether it be to attain the next promotion or to receive recognition from those around us, we often define ourselves by what we do, not who we are. Sometimes we strive for these accomplishments regardless of the costs – often to the

detriment of our own well being and those people most important in our lives.

If we want to create a healthy environment for ourselves to grow mentally, emotionally and spiritually, a major change must occur in our perceptions of what is important. In other words, we must change our attitudes and focus on what I call the "right stuff." What is the "right stuff?" For me, it means concentrating on those values inherent within ourselves which signify our worth as individuals; actually embodying our true nature – a being created in the image of God. For most if not all of us, it's a lifelong journey. I do know one thing: it's never too late to begin that journey. How do we begin?

There are many ways. One way to begin is to examine ourselves in relationship to our workplace and those we interact with on a daily basis. I recently read a book entitled "Don't Sweat the Small Stuff at Work." Here's some food for thought on how you can reduce

stress and make yourself, your home and the workplace a more enriched environment for you and those around you.

Let go: We all try to control our own world. Quit trying to manipulate the behavior of others in order to control the environment. Don't get stuck on having things only your way. This stems from a desire to feel secure. There's plenty of room for all of our ideas and particular talents. It's not threatening but liberating to know you're not doing it alone – that we're all in this together. Once you stop trying to control people and things, you actually realize that you are in control – of yourself. And then you can open yourself to others and they can open to you.

Be a change agent: You may have heard the phrase "Light a candle instead of cursing the darkness." Don't just complain. Do something to change things – get involved.

See 'Living,' page 6

Everyone we encounter deserves kindness and warrants our respect. What's important is that we remind ourselves of this throughout our busy day.

Legacy:

AETC observes Asian Pacific-American Heritage Month

By Gen. Lloyd W. Newton

AETC Commander

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – Defense Secretary William Cohen designated May as Asian Pacific American Heritage month. This year's theme is "Celebrating our Legacy" to honor the unique contributions and diversity of members of the Armed Forces with Asian and Pacific Islander descent.

Today, Asian and Pacific Americans are helping build a vibrant Armed Forces. Their legacy is impressive and representative of the millions of men

and women who left their homelands to come to America.

These sons and daughters of Cambodia, China, Indonesia, India, Japan, Korea, Laos, the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, and so many other Asian and Pacific lands enrich our national life and culture. Their energy and talents, commitment to family and community, and enduring reverence for freedom are inspiring.

Each culture is unique in its history, language, and identity. What bonds them is not only the region they call home, but also the obstacles they overcame to become an integral part of the American culture and our Armed Forces.

Seven Issei (first generation Japanese) and one Chinese were reported to be among the crew members killed when

See 'Newton,' page 10

... as we approach the 21st century, Asian and Pacific Americans will continue to play an important role in our Armed Forces.

Actionline

Call 298-5351

If your question relates to the general interest of the people of Laughlin, the question and answer may also be printed in the *Border Eagle*. Before you call the Actionline, please try to work the problem out through the normal chain of command or directly with the base agency involved.

Thanks for your cooperation and I look forward to reading some quality ideas and suggestions.


Col. Dan R. Goodrich

47th Flying Training Wing commander

19 AF commander bids farewell

By Maj. Gen. Kurt Anderson

19th Air Force commander

Where has the time gone? It seems like just a few short years ago that my wife Sue and I drove through the gates of Reese Air Force Base and began a journey that has spanned over 32 years. To say the time has flown is a huge understatement; to say that our time in the Air Force was incredibly exciting and unbelievably enjoyable is an even bigger understatement.

As I leave 19th Air Force in the extremely capable hands of Maj. Gen. Steve Polk, I want to take this opportunity to bid farewell and to thank all of the men and women – military, civil servant, contractor, and their wonderful families – who I have had the privilege of serving with these past two years. When I assumed command in 1997, I said at the change of command ceremony that I was in awe of what the command does on a daily basis. My two years in the command have not diminished that feeling one bit. The tireless dedication displayed by everyone of our people is inspira-

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AAFES	298-3176
Accounting and Finance	298-5204
Civil Engineer	298-5252
Civilian Personnel	298-5299
Commissary	298-5815
Dormitory manager	298-5213
Hospital	298-6311
Housing	298-5904
Inspector General	298-5638
Legal	298-5172
Military Personnel	298-5073
Public Affairs	298-5988
Security Forces	298-5900
Services	298-5810
Social Actions	298-5400
FWA hotline	298-4170

Border Eagle

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Deadlines, Advertising

News for the Border Eagle should be submitted to the 47th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 338, Laughlin AFB, TX, Ext. 5262. **Copy deadline is close of business each Thursday the week prior to publication.** Advertising should be submitted to the Del Rio News-Herald, 2205 Bedell, Del Rio, TX, 774-4611. Advertising should be submitted by 4 p.m. each Friday. Submissions can be E-mailed to: michael.hammond@laughlin.af.mil or reginal.woodruff@laughlin.af.mil
Visit Laughlin's website at <http://www.lau.aetc.af.mil/>

***“Excellence –
not our goal, but
our standard.”***

– 47 FTW motto

Safety Stats

As of April 13
(Fiscal Year)

	'99	Total '98
On-duty mishaps	1	11
Off-duty mishaps	7	7
Traffic mishaps	1	4
Sports & Rec mishaps	5	3
Fatalities	0	2

Leaders meet for rated summit

WASHINGTON — If key provisions of a Senate bill become law, the Air Force could restructure the aviator continuation pay program.

Faced with the largest pilot shortage in history, Acting Secretary of the Air Force Whit Peters and Chief of Staff Gen. Michael E. Ryan convened a summit of commanders from the major commands in April at Langley Air Force Base, Va.

Their charge was to focus on the near-term management of the pilot force. The senior leaders reviewed pilot requirements, training and absorption, manning of headquarters staffs and how to best implement features of the Soldier's, Sailor's, Airmen's and Marines' Bill of Rights Act of 1999.

If enacted, the act provides certain features the Air Force could capitalize on, according to the deputy chief of staff for personnel. Specifically, the act would grant discretionary authority to the services to pay aviator bonuses beyond the current limit of 14 years of commissioned service.

The act would also repeal the restriction on dual compensation that limits the amount of pay a retired military member could earn if subsequently employed by the civil service. The Air Force sees this as an opportunity for retired pilots, navigators, and air battle managers to fill shortages in the headquarters staffs. In addition, the Air Force is considering seeking an increase on the number of retired officers that could be voluntarily recalled to active duty.



Photo by Senior Airman Jeffrey Allen

A U.S. Air Force pilot readies his F-16 to fly a mission against targets in Yugoslavia. Members of the 23rd Fighter Squadron, Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany, are deployed to Aviano Air Base, Italy, in support of NATO Operation Allied Force.

The senior leaders explored several aviator bonus options to include offering the bonus at the traditional nine-year point in service as well as expanding beyond the current legal limit of 14 years, possibly through 25 years of aviation service. Senior leadership is committed to improving pilot retention and will refine the plan to expand the bonus at their Corona Top meeting in June.

In fiscal 2000 through 2002, more than 3,300 pilots will become eligible for a bonus, and an additional 2,200 pilots will have their current bonus expire. In fiscal 2003 through

2006, less than 2,000 pilots will reach initial bonus eligibility.

“You can quickly see why the Air Force supports legislative changes in bonus authority,” said Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel Lt. Gen. Donald Peterson. “We want to take full advantage of this opportunity to restructure pilot compensation as we have other programs.”

According to Peterson, “Those pilots first eligible for the bonus in FY '99 — and contemplating accepting the bonus — should continue to sign up under the current program. If the law is enacted, our intention is to offer an opportunity for the pilots to restructure the bonus agreement on their first anniversary in order to take advantage of the new law.

“Don't delay plans in accepting the bonus since we cannot predict the passage of law. For all of our pilots completing the current bonus program, usually around the 14-year point, our intention is to offer new bonus opportunities that may pay up to \$25,000 per year.”

Peterson added that the Air Force wants to be in position to take full advantage of the act if it becomes law.

“We are committed,” he said, “to being in position to implement targeted programs. This is in addition to improving compensation, managing tempo, transitioning to the expeditionary aerospace force, improving the transition to TRICARE and improving quality of life, particularly for our deployed people and their families.”

(Courtesy AFPN)

Laughlin troops earn college degrees

Seven members of the Laughlin team recently earned associate of applied science degrees through the Community College of the Air Force.

Those graduating and their degree majors are:

Tech Sgt. Anthony K. Conder (not pictured), Criminal Justice ; Staff Sgt. Brigida L. Hendrix, Allied Health Sciences; Staff Sgt. Robert C. Hitchcock (not pictured), Information Management; Staff Sgt. Brian K. Lewallen, Airport Resource Management; Senior Master Sgt. William E. Schoen, Information Systems Technology; Staff Sgt. Stephen J. Sedlock, Dental Assisting; Senior Airman Carmaneta L. Yanosko (two degrees), Communications Applications, Education and Training Management.

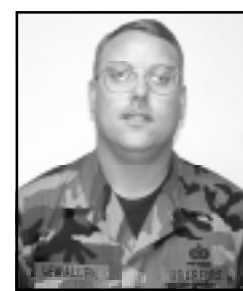
Staff Sgt. Matthew R. Muldowney was also recognized at the ceremony as a Park College graduate.

The Community College of the Air Force offers Air Force enlisted personnel an opportunity to earn a regionally accredited college degree in their area of expertise. Members can only earn the degree while on active duty or in the active reserve. The degree must be completed prior to separation, retirement or commissioning. Air Force officers and civilian personnel are not eligible to participate in a CCAF degree program.

Enlisted members are encouraged to take credit for the training they have received as a member of the U.S. Air Force. The Community College of the Air Force documents members' training and education with an official transcript. In the labor market, education, knowledge and training are recognized through credentials, and the college makes those credentials available to any enlisted member who wants to



Hendrix



Lewallen



Muldowney



Schoen



Sedlock



Yanosko

take advantage of the opportunity.

CCAF degree programs require a minimum of 64 semester hours consisting of physical, technical and general education; leadership, management, military studies and electives. Because credit can come from many dif-

ferent sources, many people are unaware how many credits they have.

For more information about the CCAF and how you can obtain an associate of applied science degree, contact the Education Office at 5545.

Class 99-09 – taught, tested, ready to fly

Today marks the culmination of countless hours of study and training by 22 people, completing one of the most difficult endeavors they'll ever face.

SUPT Class 99-09 graduates at 10 a.m. today in a ceremony at the Operations Training Complex auditorium.

The 52-week SUPT program prepares student pilots for the entire spectrum of Air force aircraft and flying missions. Air Force pilot training involves months of class room, simulator as well as in-flight training.

Training begins with a three-week preflight phase of physiological and academic training to prepare students for flight.

The second phase, primary training, is conducted in the twin-engine subsonic T-37 Tweet.

In the T-37 students learn flight characteristics, emergency procedures, takeoff and landing, aerobatics and formation flying.

Primary training takes 23 weeks and consists of 254.4 hours of ground training, 27.3 hours in the flight simulator and 89 flying hours.

After primary training, the future pilots are selected for advanced in-flight training in a specialized area or track.

The tracks include tanker, bomber and cargo pilot training in the T-1 aircraft, fighter pilot training in the T-38, turbo propeller aircraft training in the Navy's T-44, and helicopter training in the Army's UH-1.

Advanced training takes about 26 weeks and involves 381 hours of ground events, 31.6 hours in the flight simulator and 118.7 flying hours.

Graduates of SUPT Class 99-09 have been assigned to various aircraft at duty stations throughout the United States and the world.



Maj. Michael W. Bank, Jr.
Class Leader
Niagara Falls, N.Y. (ANG)
KC-135



Capt. Brendan D. O'Brien
Assistant Class Leader
Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz
A-10



Capt. David W. Dye
Charleston AFB, S.C.
C-17



Lt. Luis Gonzalez
Mexican Navy
TBD



Capt. Vincent G. Lappano
Tinker AFB, Okla.
E-3



Lt. Samuel Mendoza
Mexican Navy
TBD



Capt. Brian C. Nicolosi
Luke AFB, Ariz.
F-16



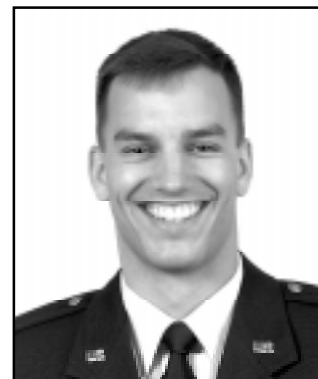
Capt. Andrew C. Popiel
Mountain Home AFB, Idaho
KC-135



Capt. Daniel P. Radulski
Luke AFB, Ariz.
F-16



Capt. Christopher E. Rosato
Dobbins ARB, Ga.
C-130



Capt. Clinton F. Warner
Tyndall AFB, Fla.
F-15



Capt. Cornelius H. Wicks
March ARB, Calif. (ANG)
KC-135



1st Lt. William A. Buckingham, Jr.
McChord AFB, Wash. – C-17



1st Lt. Star E. Elton
McConnell AFB, Kan.
KC-135



2nd Lt. Michael S. Daftarian
Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.
KC-135



2nd Lt. James M. Detweiler
Kadena AB, Japan
KC-135



2nd Lt. Chad L. Greiner
Travis AFB, Calif.
C-5



2nd Lt. Jeremiah S. Heathman
Fairchild AFB, Wash.
KC-135



2nd Lt. Richard A. McCurdy
Laughlin AFB, Texas
T-38



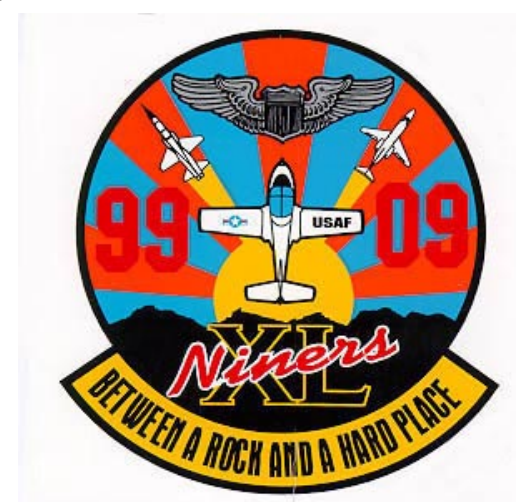
2nd Lt. Mircea A. Mitran
Laughlin AFB, Texas
T-37



2nd Lt. Robert T. Rettig
Minneapolis, Minn. (AFRES)
C-130



2nd Lt. Ronald A. Tornese
McGuire AFB, N.J.
C-141



‘Living,’ from page 2

Acknowledge others: We all love being appreciated. Take the time to tell those you love what they mean to you. Acknowledge others for their good work and let them know that you sincerely appreciate their efforts. Each individual is special and has gifts to offer.

Build a bridge between your spirituality and work: Bring the essence of yourself and the qualities you possess to work with you. Don’t separate who you are from what you do. You are who you are, wherever you are. Whatever your qualities, express them and let others see them – you’ll be glad you did.

Brighten up your work area: Since we spend so much time at work, why not make it a nicer placer to be. Add pictures or a favorite painting; maybe soft music or flowers. It will make you feel better, your attitude will reflect it and you’ll do better.

Take breaks during the day: Sometimes we get so caught up in work and dead-

lines, we can feel guilty for taking a break during the day. Take little vacations during the day. Go for a quiet walk outside for a few minutes. Catch a breath of fresh air. Observe a bird in flight or a squirrel sitting in a tree. You’ll feel refreshed, more energetic and have a more positive attitude.

Be nice: The saying goes – “You catch more flies with honey.” Sometimes it’s necessary to be assertive and directive. But usually that’s not the case.

Most often, being considerate, courteous and fair-minded benefits all of us. Everyone we encounter deserves kindness and warrants our respect. What’s important is that we remind ourselves of this throughout our busy day.

Realize that everyone has a bad day: Sometimes everything that could go wrong does. Sometimes no matter what happens, we feel down or frustrated. Accept the fact that

this is part of life. Carry on as best you can and remember to keep things in perspective. We all have bad days and your acceptance of this fact allows you to not only deal better with the situation when it occurs but enables you to understand and help others when it occurs to them.

Be gentle to yourself and others: We all have weaknesses and fears. It’s one of the gifts that connects us to our own humanity and to each other. Be at peace with yourself and be understanding and compassionate to others. We are all traveling

the same journey – it’s easier when we realize we aren’t the only ones on that road.

Stop procrastinating: Think of how much easier life would be if we simply began our tasks earlier. This is particularly true when doing things we dislike – we put those things off to last. Then we feel more and more pressure and stress as the suspense approaches. Think

about tackling those tasks first. Getting the unpleasant tasks out of the way will lead to a feeling of relief and allow you the opportunity to get on with other more likeable activities.

Take personal responsibility: Admit that you are responsible for your life. Realize that what you are doing and where you are is a result of choices you’ve made. If you want change in your life, change it. You have the power to do so.

Take time out: We all need some peace and quiet in our lives. When things get hectic and chaotic, take a few minutes to do nothing. Sit still and remain silent. This will help you sort things out and settle things down within you.

Eliminate worry: Within the creed “Desiderata,” it is written “...do not distress yourself with imaginings. Many fears are born out of fatigue and loneliness.” Worry is destructive – it is based on fear. The majority of things we worry about never occur.

Instead of worrying, consider doing your very best and let the chips fall where they

may. Remember my first point – let go of what you can’t control.

Eliminate your ego: Your ego is self-destructive. It demands to be recognized and prove to others your worth. It is self-absorbed and self-centered. Its purpose is to maintain its own life at the expense of all else. Rid your self of it. Focus instead on your worth as a spiritual being with extraordinary powers and talents. You’ll feel less self-conscious, possess a greater sense of self-esteem and self-worth and be more willing to contribute to others.

Be here now: We’ve all heard of “TGIF.” Well, how about “TGFT” – Thank God For Today. The past is history – learn from it, don’t live in it. The future is an illusion – plan for it, don’t live in it.

Reality exists in the moment. Look forward to each day. Try to live it to the fullest – minute by minute. It’s one more day to be alive, to experience something new, to take in the wonders around us. Each day is a gift from the Divine – revel in it!

Most often, being considerate, courteous and fair-minded benefits all of us.

Question of the week

If you could visit any country, what would it be and why?

“Because of my religious background, it would be Jerusalem. However, because of my Christianity, the best place would be my state of mind. You could be in the best country in this world and still not be happy if you’re not in the right state of mind.”

Tony Mattis

“Israel. Because that’s where Christ was.”

Gerald Gott

“Hawaii. So I could surf the waves!”

George Luevano

“Germany. It’s beautiful, clean and the culture is superb! Their lifestyle is wonderful.”

Staff Sgt. David Wilcoxson

‘Prather,’ from page 1

coastal village of Tam Ky. Prather was carrying 50 combat Marines aboard his aircraft when he led both aircraft through 800-foot ceilings to the mountain-ringed landing strip. Ground fire ripped more than 20 holes in his wing fuel tanks and Prather directed his crew to whittle pegs from a broomstick to stop the loss of fuel and enable the aircraft to return home.

While unloading the aircraft and making the creative repairs, approximately 80 battle-weary Marines climbed aboard his aircraft. Concerned about the excess weight, the loadmaster asked what to do. Prather replied simply, “Close the doors,” and safely ferried his passengers out of the combat zone to Da Nang.

Prather achieved command pilot status with more than 4,500 flying hours. His numerous decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medals, Air Force and Marine Presidential Unit Citations, and 17 other awards.

Prather and his wife, Carolyn, returned to her hometown of Del Rio following retirement. He has



Courtesy photo
Prather during primary pilot training at Hondo, Texas, in March 1956.

continued his service to the community. He served as Justice of the Peace for Precinct 3 for nearly 10 years. Prather served as donations management director for flood relief in 1998. He is an active member of St. James Episcopal Church, the Lions Club and Air Force Assistance Fund.

Heritage Hallway displays a collage about each honoree. The photos and descriptions highlight each Laughlin alumni and his achievements during military service.

The hallway is designed to promote patriotism and the ideals of military service in an effort to motivate student pilots and everyone at Laughlin to set and achieve lofty goals.

Heritage Hall

Retired Maj. Gen. Gerald L. Prather joins seven other alumni who have distinguished themselves during their Air Force careers. They are:

2nd Lt. Dick Rutan: Completed the first unrefueled, nonstop flight around the world aboard the space shuttle Voyager.

Capt. Larry Welch: Went from an instructor pilot here in the 1950s to serve as Air Force Chief of Staff.

2nd Lt. Mark Lee: Launched the first planetary probe ever deployed from a space shuttle.

2nd Lt. Sidney Guiterrez: Became a space shuttle pilot and was vital in verifying flight software for the space shuttle program.

Lt. Col. Norlan Daughtrey: Distinguished himself when he was shot down near Hanoi, Vietnam, and spent seven years and eight months as a prisoner of war.

Capt. Don Watrous: Shot down a MiG 23 over Iraq in an F-15 during the Gulf War in January 1991.

Lt. Col. Joe Jackson: Received the Medal of Honor for rescuing a three-man team from Kham Duc in North Vietnam while under heavy fire.

Air Force Memorial wins lengthy battle

ARLINGTON, Va. — After two years of skirmishes, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit ruled May 10 in favor of the Air Force Memorial Foundation. This gives a green light to completion of a memorial honoring the service’s men and women.

The ruling marks the second time in the last year a federal court has dismissed a suit aimed at stopping construction of the memorial on Arlington Ridge, north of the Arlington National Cemetery.

“Today’s decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals marks the end of the controversy over the Air Force Memorial,” said Chuck Link, Air Force Memorial Foundation.

“Our Air Force Memorial has now been approved by an act of Congress, by four different government agencies and has twice won judgments in federal courts,” he said. “It is time to move forward and allow the Air Force Memorial to join those honoring the other branches of the military in our nation’s capital.”

The Air Force is the only major branch of the armed forces without a memorial site in Washington.

In it’s ruling, the Court of Appeals ruled that the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia decided properly in favor of the foundation and the federal approval agencies in June.

The District Court had summarily dismissed the initial suit. It found that the Air Force Memorial Foundation and the U.S. government had complied with the provisions of the Administrative Approval Act and Commemorative Works Act in approving the memorial site.

“Today’s decision didn’t come as a surprise,” said Joe Coors Jr., chairman of the Air Force Memorial Foundation’s board of trustees. “The National Park Service had long envisioned a memorial on the two-acre site selected for the Air Force Memorial. As the memorial takes shape on Arlington Ridge, I am confident that everyone will see how the design blends with and complements the two existing monuments on the site.”

The Air Force Memorial is scheduled for completion in 2002.

(AFPN)

From the Blotter

(47th Security Forces Squadron)



May 6, 7:45 a.m. – A VCR was reported stolen from a government facility. The lock holding the VCR in place had been broken.

May 10, 9:00 a.m. – A civilian employee reported to the Law Enforcement Desk that the Auto Hobby Shop gate had been damaged.

May 11, 12:20 a.m. – An off-duty SF investigator discovered that a bottle had been thrown through the television in the dayroom of the enlisted dormitories. An investigation was conducted and a confession was obtained from an active duty airman.

May 5, 6:00 a.m. – Security Forces were called to

a domestic disturbance in the Fiesta Center parking lot.

May 9, 5:00 a.m. – The Del Rio Police Department reported that an active duty member had been arrested for assault and was released from the county jail upon posting bail.

May 10, 7:35 p.m. – An active-duty member was apprehended after a domestic assault with his common law wife.

May 11, 2:20 a.m. – An active-duty airman was apprehended for under-age drinking in the dormitories.

Call 911 for emergencies.

Call 298-5100 for non-emergencies.

47th Medical Group

Primary Care/Pediatrics – 7 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday; 7 a.m - 6 p.m. Tuesday

Flight Medicine/Physical Exams – 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. Monday; 7 a.m. - 5 p.m. Tuesday - Friday

Sick Call – 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. and 1 - 2 p.m. Monday - Friday

Clinic Hotline – 298-6317

TRICARE – (800) 406-2832 Ext. 406

Health and Wellness Center – 298-6464

Public Health – 298-6380

Appointment Line – 298-3578

For more information about the 47th Medical Group, check its website at:

<http://www.laughlin.af.mil/47ftw/index.html>



‘Newton,’ from page 1

the USS Maine sank in Havana Harbor during the Spanish American War in 1898. Filipino Army units fought side-by-side with the American Navy against the Spanish in Manila. Following the defeat of Spain and the quelling of the Philippine Insurrection, the United States formed the Philippine Scouts within the U.S. Army in the

Philippines. From 1947 to 1992, the “Military Bases Agreement of 1947” offered Filipinos a special relationship with the U.S. Navy in that 2,000 Filipino nationals were offered enlistments every year. This relationship ended with the closure of Subic Bay Naval Base in 1992, but a lasting legacy remains within our Armed Forces. Since World War II,

America has begun to recognize the many strengths Asian Pacific Islanders bring to this country. The 100th Infantry Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat Teams were comprised of only Asian Pacific Americans. More than 3,000 Japanese from Hawaii and 1,500 from the mainland volunteered. Many mainland volunteers were released from War Relocation Authority Centers to serve, while

their families remained detained. These units earned more than 18,000 medals, placing them among the most decorated in history. No matter what our mistakes or difficulties may have been in the past, we must make every effort to come together as Americans and recognize and enjoy the strength of our ethnicity. Therefore, as we approach the

21st century, Asian and Pacific Americans will continue to play an important role in our Armed Forces. Their legacies inspire not only Asian Pacific Americans, but all Americans. They inspire us to embrace a wider world, to recognize and appreciate the blessing of our diversity, and to realize their accomplishments as American accomplishments – a legacy of pride for us all. (AETCNS)

‘Farewell,’ from page 2

tional. Your work ethic and teamwork never cease to amaze me.

When I entered the Air Force in 1967, we had a strong, very effective Air Force...today we have the greatest Air Force in the world. There are a lot of things that have gone into making the USAF the undisputed “Best in the World,” but in my view, predominant among them is the fact that we have the best training programs, by far, of any flying force on the globe.

In AETC, we often say, “It begins here, in the First Command.” Certainly the heart and soul of our flying force has its beginnings in AETC and 19th Air Force. Everyone in the com-

mand can take great pride in our ability to turn “pedestrians” into superbly capable aircrews –you do it proudly, you do it safely, you do it better than anyone else!

In a few short days, I will join those who have served rather than those who are serving. As I make that momentous transition, I will remember the wonderful, dedicated warriors I have served with throughout the years, and will certainly hold the members of 19th Air Force in a warm place in my heart.

When I reflect on my service and what it has meant, I will often think of a quote ascribed to Winston Churchill when he was discussing his feelings about a unit he served in: “It will be sufficient to say that I served with

them.” That I was fortunate to have been able to serve in the United States Air Force is something I will be eternally grateful for ... that I was able to close out my career serving alongside the magnificent members of 19th Air Force is a memory I will treasure forever.

To all members of Air Education and Training Command, and especially to the wonderful professionals of 19th Air Force, Thank You! You have made Sue’s and my Air Force journey a joy which we will reflect on with pride and thankfulness in the years ahead. We will miss serving with you, and our prayers will be with you and your families as you continue your vital service to our Air Force and our country.

(Courtesy 12 FTW/PA)
So long ... it’s been great!

***Maj. Gen Steven Polk will succeed
Maj. Gen. Kurt Anderson as commander
of 19th Air Force in a 10 a.m. ceremony
Tuesday at Randolph Air Force Base,
Texas.***

Air Force opens recruiting options to security forces

Air Force Recruiting Service Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AETCNS) — The Air Force, recognizing the need for recruiters and experiencing a more stable security forces non-commissioned officer corps, is allowing some NCOs in the 3P0X1 career field to retrain into recruiting.

Restricted since June 1997 to stabilize manning levels, staff and technical sergeants primarily holding 7-levels are now eligible to retrain into any shortage Air Force Specialty Code with emphasis being put on those eligible to become recruiters, according to personnel officials at the Air Force Personnel Center.

Recruiting officials noted a significant drop in attendance by security forces members at briefings by the Air Force Recruiting Service's Recruit-the-Recruiter team that travels from base to base in search of recruiter volunteers.

"The drop alerted us that we needed to find out why," said Lt. Col. Ed Burkart, the director of personnel for AFRS. "In (fiscal) 1999, nearly 14 percent of our new enlistees will enter into the security forces career field. We feel it's important to have security forces members represented on our recruiting force." It is expected that these security-forces-turned-recruiters will return about 10 to 15 new people into their career field each year.

"The Air Force is unlike any of our sister services in that every one of our recruiters is a volunteer," Burkart explained. "New recruiters share tremendous career opportunities with young men and women across the country. Recruiters, in many cases, are the only military representation in some communities. We can't think of many people better than members of the security forces to represent the Air Force."

Recruiting duty has some unique benefits, Burkart added. Special Duty Assignment Pay, regional location of choice based on availability, a unique work environment, and world-class sales training are among the top reasons many NCOs choose to volunteer for recruiter duty.

People who sincerely believe in the U.S. Air Force as an opportunity and want to share their experiences with America's best and brightest teen-agers should consider recruiter duty, said Burkart.

For more information on available locations and how to become a recruiter, call the Recruit-the-Recruiter team at DSN 487-3511 or 3512 or commercial (210) 652-3511 or 3512.

Those interested can also visit the Air Force Recruiting Service's internal Web site at <http://www.rs.af.mil> or send electronic mail to Burkart at edward.burkart@rs.af.mil.

(AETCNS)



AF releases combined promotion list Thursday

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPC) - The Air Force will release the Master and Technical Sergeant promotion lists at the same time May 27.

The Air Force selected 5,827 of 19,600 eligible technical sergeants for promotion to master sergeant and 11,742 of 48,092 eligible staff sergeants for promotion to technical sergeant. This represents an overall 29.7 percent selection rate for the 99E7 cycle and 24.4 percent selection rate for the 99E6 cycle.

The list of selectees becomes public at each installation the first duty hour Thursday and becomes available on the Air Force Personnel Center's World Wide Web Home page at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil> by close of business May 28.

People who tested are expected to receive their score notices in early June, allowing them to see just how they stacked up against their counterparts.

These score notices allow members to know how their professional fitness examination and skills knowledge test scores rank against those they're directly competing against for promotion within their Air Force Specialty Code.

Master sergeant

The average selectee score for the master sergeant test cycle was 353.51 points based on the following:

- 134.03 Enlisted Performance Reports
- 67.74 Promotion Fitness Exam
- 70.01 Specialty Knowledge Test
- 34.38 Time in Grade
- 35.52 Time in Service
- 11.00 Decorations



The average selectee has 4.57 years time in grade and 16.61 years in service. Those selected will be promoted to master sergeant from August to July 2000.

Technical sergeant

The average selectee score for the technical sergeant test cycle was 347.44 points based on the following:

- 132.78 Enlisted Performance Reports
- 67.31 Promotion Fitness Exam
- 61.85 Specialty Knowledge Test
- 45.81 Time in Grade
- 30.40 Time in Service
- 7.56 Decorations



The average selectee has 6.79 years time in grade and 14 years in service. Those selected will also be promoted to technical sergeant from August to July 2000.

(AFPC)



Photo by Senior Airman Mike Hammond

Grounded!

Trooper 4 Richard Treece, Texas Dept. of Public Safety, demonstrates to 2nd Lt. Shane Noyse, 85th Flying Training Squadron Falcon Flight, what happens when people drive while intoxicated. The demonstration occurred during a briefing for hundreds of Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training students at the Operations Training Complex. The briefing was one of many safety-oriented activities held at Laughlin in observance of Monday's Safety Day.

Tricare Prime assures members receive care while vacationing

Summertime is almost here, and many people are planning vacations. Medical emergencies or illnesses aren't usually included in vacation preparations, but it is reassuring to know that TRICARE Prime will be there in case the situation arises. The following is the information you need to know to receive care while traveling outside the region.

Whether you're in the U.S. or a foreign country, TRICARE covers your emergency medical care in life-threatening situations. Prime members who have an emergency situation should seek care at the nearest hospital emergency room. To ensure proper payment of your claim, you or a family member must contact your Primary Care Manager within 24 hours of admission. (In the case of a psychiatric emergency, your behavioral health provider must be notified.) If your provider is unavailable, contact a Region 6 Health Care Finder at (800) 406-2832* (Option #4) for assistance.

When you are traveling

outside the region and you need medical care for an urgent condition that is not life threatening, consult your Primary Care Manager for directions on treatment options. If your PCM determines that referral for urgent care is necessary, your PCM should contact the HCF to get authorization before you receive services at a military or a civilian facility. When you are out of the country, a local Military Treatment Facility or the U.S. Consulate office may be able to provide recommendations for nearby providers.

If prior authorization for urgent care (including care received in another country) is not received from the HCF, you will be billed under Point-of-Service, resulting in higher cost shares and deductibles. If your PCM is unavailable, you must call the Health Care Finder at (800) 406-2832* (Option #4) for assistance. Health Care Finders are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

When traveling, you may be required to pay for prescriptions or civilian medical services

when they are received. Pay the bill at that time, and submit the following information to Foundation Health Federal Services:

1. The itemized bill on the company letterhead of the provider or institution who treated you

2. Your sponsor's Social Security number

3. A completed claims form (available at your local TRICARE Service Center) and

4. A brief explanation of your medical treatment, written by the physician who treated you.

Mail this information to FHFS, c/o WPS/TRICARE; P.O. Box 8999; Madison, Wis., 53708.

Authorizations for urgent services while traveling are not required for beneficiaries not enrolled in TRICARE Prime. However, please understand that TRICARE Standard cost-shares and deductibles will apply.

**This number is not toll-free from outside the USA. Obtain the access code of the country you will be visiting from your long distance phone company before you leave.*

(Courtesy 47th Medical Group)

Medical Group plans to eliminate long waits for sick call appointments

Beginning June 7, the 47th Medical Group will implement new procedures for sick call, holding it on an appointment basis. The new procedures should help ease the long wait sometimes associated with sick call.

Sick call for acute illnesses is provided at the Primary Care Clinic to all active duty members (not on flying status) and reservists on orders. Sick call hours are 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. and 1 to 1:30 p.m. Please call 298-6362 between 7 and 7:30 a.m. for a morning appointment and from 12:30 to 1 p.m. for an afternoon appointment. You will need to pick up your medical records from Outpa-

tient Records prior to checking in at the clinic, so please arrive early.

In addition, Val Verde Regional Medical Center provides an Acute Care Clinic Wednesday through Sunday from 2 to 10 p.m. Tricare Prime enrollees must contact their Primary Care Manager prior to going to VVRMC.

Flight Medicine Clinic: For active duty members enrolled to the Flight Medicine Clinic, walk-in appointments will continue from 7 to 7:30 a.m. for return to flying status; for all other active duty members, sick call appointments are available from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m., and from 1 to

1:45 p.m. For a sick call appointment, please call 298-6341 from 7:00 to 7:30 a.m. and from 12:30 to 1:00 for an afternoon appointment.

Dental Clinic: The Dental Clinic provides sick call for urgent problems. The Dental Clinic sick call hours are 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. and 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. Please call the Dental Clinic at 298-6331 half an hour prior to appointments.

If you have any questions, please call Senior Airman Kasey Gibbs at the Tricare Flight, at 6301.

(Courtesy 47th Medical Group)

Runners have 18 weeks to train for Sept. 18 Air Force Marathon

Only 18 training weeks remain before Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio hosts the third Air Force Marathon on Sept. 18.

Running experts say it takes a minimum of 16 weeks for a casual runner to train for the 26.2 mile race that traverses many historical places on Wright-Patterson AFB in Dayton, Ohio.

Labeled a "race with a different altitude," the marathon celebrates the Air Force's birthday and the historical significance of Wright-Patterson in aviation history. It also provides a great challenge to the physical fitness of its participants.

In addition to the 26.2 mile race, the 1999 Air Force Marathon also offers an Ekiden-style relay, designed for runners who do not wish to run the entire course. The relay is broken down into four legs — five miles, seven miles, 7.5 miles, and 6.7 miles. The team's total elapsed time will determine the winners.

Last year, a four-person team from Kelly AFB, Texas, was the first Air Force team to cross the finish line with a time of 2 hours,

27 minutes, 2 seconds. Teams from McConnell AFB, Kan.; McGuire AFB, N.J.; Scott AFB, Ill.; Keesler AFB, Miss.; and Hanscom AFB, Mass., are just a



few who also competed.

Air Force Services officials have designated the Air Force Marathon an event where individual base services organizations can use appropriated funds to offset travel costs for participants. When combined with the "Operation Runner" program, in

which Wright-Patterson families welcome runners into their homes for marathon weekend, the main out-of-pocket expense on this permissive temporary duty is the entry fee.

All finishers, including relay team members, receive the unique Air Force Marathon finisher medallion, patch, T-shirt and other souvenirs.

For more information on the marathon, including registration fees, call the U.S. Air Force Marathon at (800) 467-1823 or visit their web site at the link below. Registration deadline is Sept. 4.

(AFNS)

Intramural volleyball standings

(As of Thursday)

Team	W	L
84th/85th	8	0
86th	8	1
MDG #1	7	2
CES	5	4
OSS	4	4
87th	4	4
MSS	2	6
MDG #2	2	7
CS/CONS/SVS	2	7
LCSAM	0	9

Intramural volleyball playoff schedule

Volleyball playoffs begin June 1. The top four teams from the regular season advanced to the playoffs.

Teams and ranking:

1. 84/85th

3. MDG #1
2. 86th

4. CES

Games:

- June 1:

6:30 p.m. – 84/85th vs CES

7:30 p.m. – 86th vs MDG #1
- June 3:

6:30 p.m. – Championship match

Come out and watch the
playoffs! Support your
unit’s team as they compete
for the base championship!

Sportsline

The 3-Mile Walk the Fitness Center and Youth Center sponsored this past Sunday was a great success, according to Gerald Gott, XL Fitness Center director.

The walk started at 6 p.m. at the Ribas-Dominicci Circle and there were 55 participants.

This was the first event held on a Sunday evening at Laughlin. Because of its success, other events will be scheduled.

Every participant received a small towel or t-shirt for participating. “Everyone had a great time and even had time to clean up and get ready to watch some prime time TV,” said Gott.





Photo by Staff Sgt. Reginal Woodruff

Furthering education

Sarah Baskin, Aaron Rodriguez and Andraya Young, Del Rio High School students, display a mock scholarship check from the Black Heritage Committee. The check was presented by Col. Dan R. Goodrich, 47th Flying Training Wing commander, on behalf of the committee which provides scholarships annually. The students will share the \$1,200 with Vanessa Leyva and Pedro Cardenas.

Musical auditions

The Upstagers will conduct auditions for the musical comedy "The Taffetas" 7-8 p.m. Monday at the Fiesta Community Center. Performers and stage assistants are needed.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Robert Wade at 5843.

Car wash

The base TOP 3 will have a car wash 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday in the Base Exchange parking lot. Chips and soda will be sold.

Funds raised during the event will help fund the Enlisted Dinning Out.

Promotion ceremony

Everyone is encouraged to attend the Enlisted Promotion Ceremony at 3:30 p.m. May 28 at Club Amistad.

Financial management classes

The Personal Financial Management Program will offer the following classes in the Family Support Center conference room starting at 9 a.m.:

- Checkbook Management - June 4
- Budget Workshop - June 11
- Understanding Credit - June 18
- Basic Investing - June 25

Friends, supervisors, coworker and spouses are encouraged to attend. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Amy Urban at 5109.

Volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed for this year's Operation Graduation - an all-night extravaganza that provides graduating seniors and their guests a drug- and alcohol-free way to celebrate their commencement.

Operation Graduation begins at 11 p.m. May 28 at the Del Rio Civic Center, immediately following

commencement activities at Ram Stadium. There will be food, games and prizes. A grand prize will be given away at 6 a.m. Saturday.

Volunteers are needed in all areas, especially to run the four major games - the log roll, horse race, rope climb and the money booth. Cash donations and prizes are also needed

Last year, over 1,000 graduates and their guests attended this event. If anyone, any organization or group, would like to volunteer time or donate food, prizes or money, please contact Juan M. Salinas at 774-4670 after 5 p.m.

Course available

Embry-Riddle University Master of Aeronautical Science will offer a course in Human Factors in Aviation June 1 - July 27.

Those interested can register at the Education Center. For more information, call 298-3272.

M*A*S*H Bash

The 47th Medical Group and the 47th Services Division will co-host M*A*S*H Bash 5 p.m. June 4 at the base picnic area. The M*A*S*H Bash will feature music, entertainment, contests, food booths, games and more. Everyone is invited to attend.

For more information, call 298-6463.

Reserve vacancies

The Massachusetts Air National Guard is seeking active duty service members who are willing to separate from the Air Force to fill part-time vacancies within the Massachusetts ANG. All members of the Massachusetts ANG are entitled to 100 percent-free tuition at all Massachusetts state colleges and universities. Members can also use their Montgomery GI Bill benefits.

People who can't be placed in their current AFSC can retrain. If you're interested in a Palace Chase or Palace Front, call Master Sgt. Pete Gorman at DSN 636-9271, ext. 5227 or (508) 751-5227.

New signs

Three new 5-MPH speed signs were placed in the parking lot adjacent to the Base Clinic. One at or near each of the two entrances and the other near the access to the actual parking area, near the front of the building.

The intent is to provide an extra measure of safety for clinic visitors and the team that serves them.

Membership meeting

The Enlisted Wives Club will have their general membership meeting at 7 p.m. Monday at Club XL. Annual elections for the upcoming year will also be conducted that night. All members and any non-mem-

bers are welcome to attend.

For more information, please call Betty Hardy after 5 p.m. at 298-7140.

MPF phone numbers

Due to several changes in structuring, and the high volume of phone calls to the Customer Service office, the following MPF phone numbers are listed for future reference:

- MPF Commander: 5073
- MPF Superintendent: 5856
- MPF Information Management: 4320
- Chief, Customer Support: 5075
- Chief, Customer Service: 5828
- NCOIC, Customer Service: 5277/5276
- Superintendent Career Enhancements: 5244
- NCOIC, Evaluations: 4398
- NCOIC, Reenlistments: 4399
- NCOIC, Awards/Decorations: 4769
- Chief, Special Actions: 5246
- Chief, Relocations & Employment: 5487
- Superintendent Relocations & Employment: 4393
- NCOIC, Separations: 5074
- NCOIC, Employment: 5889
- NCOIC, Outbound Assignments: 5628
- Student Assignments: 4659
- NCOIC, Formal Training: 5409
- NCOIC, Manning/Employment: 5625
- NCOIC, Personnel Systems: 5605
- NCOIC, Readiness: 5809
- NCOIC, MPF Customer Service: 5276

Manning requirements

Palace Envoy 99-170 Personnel manning for Military Liaison Teams has the following requirements for majors and captains:

- Country - Romania
- Nomination package due date - June 20
- Reporting date - Oct. 4
- Palace Envoy 99-171 Personnel manning for Military Liaison Teams has the following senior non-commissioned officer requirements:
- Country - Albania
- Nomination due - May 20
- Reporting date - Aug. 16

- Country - Macedonia
- Nomination due - May 20
- Reporting date - Aug. 16

- Country - Slovakia
- Nomination due - May 20
- Reporting date - Aug. 16

- Country - Slovakia
- Nomination date - May 20
- Reporting date - Aug. 16

- Country - Slovakia
- Nomination date - June 20
- Reporting date - Oct. 4

- Country - Ukraine
- Nomination date - June 20
- Reporting date - Oct. 4

All volunteers can contact the Military Personnel